

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, ~~characterized in that it has~~ having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The composition according to claim 1 ~~in which~~ wherein the energy density is between 1.4-1.6 kcal/ml.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2, in which~~ wherein the source of fibre is selected from the group consisting of soluble non-starch polysaccharides, insoluble non-starch polysaccharides, oligosaccharides, and mixtures of these.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The composition according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein, in which the source of fibre comprises 20-40% by weight of soluble non-starch polysaccharides, 30-60% by weight of insoluble polysaccharides, and 20-40% by weight of oligosaccharides.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The composition according to ~~any of the preceding claims, claim 1 in which~~ wherein the soluble fibre is acacia gum, insoluble fibre is provided by pea outer fibre and oligosaccharides are fructooligosaccharides.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The composition according to ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, which has~~ comprising a viscosity of 30 – 80 mPas.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The composition according to ~~any of the preceding claims, which comprises~~ claim 1 comprising 4.5 to 6g protein/100ml.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The composition according to ~~any of the preceding claims further~~ claim 1 comprising a source of lipids.

Claim 9 (currently amended) ~~The composition according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it~~ claim 1 wherein the composition is clinically free of lactose.

Claim 10 (currently amended) ~~A method The composition according to any of claims 1-9 for providing nutrition and~~ improving the digestive tract and bowel function of a patient requiring same comprising the steps of administering to the patient a liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml and/or to maintaining or restoring a well-balanced gut flora.

Claim 11 (currently amended) ~~A method The composition according to any of claims 1-9, for enhancing mucosal barrier function in a patient requiring same comprising~~ administering to the patient a liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml.

Claim 12 (currently amended) ~~A method The composition according to any of claims 1-9 for promoting gut health or comfort in an elderly patient comprising administering to the patient a liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein~~ source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml.

Claim 13 (currently amended) ~~A method for preparing the a nutritional composition according to any of claims 1-9, comprising the steps of:~~

mixing a liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml~~components of the composition, and~~

hydrating the components to provide a liquid mixture.

Claim 14 (currently amended) A method for ~~providing nutrition and improving the digestive tract and bowel function and/or to maintaining or restoring a well-balanced gut flora~~ comprising the step of administering to a individual the nutritional composition ~~according to any of claim 1-12a~~ liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A method for enhancing mucosal function in a human individual, comprising the step of administering to a human individual ~~the nutritional composition according to any of claim 1-12a~~ liquid or powdered and reconstitutable nutritional composition comprising a protein source, a source of digestible carbohydrates and a source of dietary fibre, having an energy density of 1.3-1.8 kcal/ml and dietary fibre in an amount of more than 2.5g/100ml.